

29 April 2009

Dear Colleague

September Guarantee

You will now know of the very good news announced in Budget 2009 which has provided additional funding to meet the September Guarantee. An extra 54,500 learners in both 2009/10 and 2010/11 will now be able to take up a funded place in schools, colleges and independent providers compared to the numbers indicated in our Annual Statement of Priorities published last year. With the funding already announced for Apprenticeships, we will now be able to fund over 1.55 million young people in this coming year.

This means that I can provide immediate reassurance that there will be sufficient funds available to meet the September Guarantee this autumn. You will be aware that demand for E2E has increased in the 08/09 academic year above the levels in the Grant Letter and we anticipate that this will continue to rise into 2009/10, again compared to the numbers in the Annual Statement. We are therefore making provision to fund additional places for the remainder of 2008/09 and for 2009/10, where need and quality of provision are evidenced

Since you last discussed your forecast levels of recruitment with the LSC you may have had further evidence of the likely demand by young people, or you may be in a position to stimulate additional demand to make sure more young people continue in learning rather than becoming unemployed.

We therefore need your further advice and information on extra likely demand this year, and to meet the September Guarantee. We would want to do this quickly during May to be in a position to distribute the full amount of funding received within Budget 09 as soon as possible. Your Partnership Manager will contact you shortly to progress this.

The additional growth funding gives us a real opportunity to tackle the issue of young people who are not in education, employment or training, and young people who are in jobs without training, who are particularly vulnerable in these extraordinary economic times. I am sure you will agree that this is an excellent outcome for our 16-18 year olds and I hope you will continue to work with us to make sure we give them every opportunity to succeed both now and in the future.

Yours sincerely



Geoff Russell
Chief Executive

Learning and Skills Council

Cheylesmore House Quinton Road Coventry CV1 2WT
T 0845 019 4170 F 024 7682 3675 www.lsc.gov.uk